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Brexit Statement for customers

The decision by the UK to leave the EU in 2016, or 'Brexit' as it is referred to, presents a series of challenges to businesses across both the UK and the wider European community. At VWR, part of Avantor, we continue to monitor the situation and are aware of the potential impact on our operations. We have put into place a dedicated team to ensure business continuity and that we are able to deliver the best support and services for our customers as the transition of the UK away from the EU takes place.

Currently, there is a great deal of uncertainty around the details of a final Brexit deal. We are aware that as Brexit unfolds many parties including our customers, suppliers and distributors both in the UK and overseas, may want to know how we are preparing for what may come after Brexit. While the Brexit negotiations with the EU continue, our team, supported by external experts, is working through a series of potential scenarios; this puts us into a position to adapt to the details of Brexit in order to satisfy the needs of our customers, suppliers and distributors. As we learn more about the direction of the negotiations, we will be able to provide more details about our approach.

Key areas we are considering include the potential impact of changes to tariffs, customs borders, exchange rates and regulatory frameworks, as well as the potential impact on our integrated supply chain. Clearly these headlines cascade into adaptations for many areas of our internal organisation, from customer service, sales, and procurement, to finance, compliance, human resources and information technology. Our team is operating at every level of our business.

We pride ourselves on delivering specifically to the needs of the UK market while being securely rooted in a global organisation that brings a strong level of expertise in international trade. In the event there is no Brexit agreement, it is likely that supply chains could slow down. In order to prepare for that eventuality, we will work with our customers on inventory planning as we work with our suppliers to ensure continuity of supply on critical lines.

Despite all the political insecurity, we are confident that our planning will enable us to maintain high levels of customer service and will keep you informed of significant changes as events unfold. In the meantime, we will be happy to discuss any of your specific concerns about our ongoing trading relationship with you.

In the event that you have further questions, please contact us at brexit.uk@vwr.com.

